NEWS RELEASE

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TWO LAWRENCE MEN CHARGED WITH GUN CHARGES

KANSAS CITY, Kan. – United States Attorney Eric Melgren announced today that **Roosevelt Dahda**, 22, and **Los Dahda**, 22, brothers, both from Lawrence, Kansas, were each charged on April 12, 2004, in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Kansas. **Roosevelt Dahda** was charged with one count of using firearms during a drug trafficking crime on April 9, 2004, and **Los Dahda** was charged with possessing a shotgun with a barrel of less than 18 inches which was not registered to him in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record on April 9, 2004.

Melgren said that Roosevelt and Los Dahda each had an initial appearance on April 12, 2004, in U.S. District Court in Kansas City, Kansas. Each has been temporarily detained and detention hearings are scheduled for April 14, 2004.

If convicted, Roosevelt Dahda faces a minimum of five years and a maximum of life in federal prison, without parole, for using firearms during a drug trafficking crime. If convicted, Los Dahda faces a maximum of ten years in federal prison, without parole, for possessing a sawed off shotgun.

The complaint alleges that on April 9, 2004, Roosevelt Dahda was stopped by the Lawrence Police Department while driving his pickup and officers saw Dahda throw something from his window. The officers located the item which was a hand rolled cigar containing tobacco and marijuana. The complaint alleges that the officers searched Dahda and his truck and found marijuana and cocaine. The complaint further alleges that the officers searched Roosevelt Dahda's residence and found cocaine, marijuana, two handguns, bullets, and scales in his bedroom. The complaint further alleges that on April 9, 2004, Los Dahda was stopped by the Lawrence Police Department while driving a Nissan Altima and exited the vehicle carrying a sawed off shotgun. The complaint alleges that Los Dahda was ordered to drop the sawed off shotgun several times before he threw the weapon on the ground.

The case was investigated by the Lawrence Police Department, the Douglas County Drug Enforcement Unit, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Terra Morehead.

As in any criminal case, a person is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty. The charges filed merely contain allegations of criminal conduct.